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DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **LOAD DISTRIBUTION OF MULTIPLE DISKS** the specification of which X is attached hereto or was filed on as Application No. and was amended on (if applicable).

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56. I claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Country	Application No.	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119
Japan	2-42452	02/26/1990	Yes

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No.	Filing Date

I claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application No.	Date of Filing	Status
09/619,000	07/18/2000	Pending
09/116,344	07/16/1998	Patent No. 6,108,750
08/868,075	06/03/1997	Patent No. 5,835,938
08/355,274	12/12/1994	Patent No. 5,680,574
07/648,998	01/31/1991	Abandoned

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Robert J. Bennett, Reg. No. 27,533
Robert C. Colwell, Reg. No. 27,431

Send Correspondence to: Robert J. Bennett TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8 th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834	Direct Telephone Calls to: (Name, Reg. No., Telephone No.) Name: Robert J. Bennett Reg. No.: 27,533 Telephone: 415-576-0200
---	---

Full Name of Inventor 1:	Last Name: YAMAMOTO	First Name: AKIRA	Middle Name or Initial:	
Residence & Citizenship:	City: Cupertino	State/Foreign Country: California	Country of Citizenship: Japan	
Post Office Address:	Post Office Address: 1202 Ruppell Place	City: Cupertino	State/Country: California	Postal Code: 95014
Full Name of Inventor 2:	Last Name: SATOH	First Name: TAKAO	Middle Name or Initial:	
Residence & Citizenship:	City: Kanagawa	State/Foreign Country: Japan	Country of Citizenship: Japan	
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Residence & Citizenship:	City: Kanagawa	State/Foreign Country: Japan	Country of Citizenship: Japan	
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Full Name of Inventor 4:	Last Name: ASAKA	First Name: YOSHIHIRO	Middle Name or Initial:	
Residence & Citizenship:	City: Kanagawa	State/Foreign Country: Japan	Country of Citizenship: Japan	
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Full Name of Inventor 5:	Last Name: KUWAHARA	First Name: YOSHIKI	Middle Name or Initial:	
Residence & Citizenship:	City: Kanagawa	State/Foreign Country: Japan	Country of Citizenship: Japan	
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Full Name of Inventor 6:	Last Name: KITAJIMA	First Name: HIROYUKI	Middle Name or Initial:	
Residence & Citizenship:	City: Kanagawa	State/Foreign Country: Japan	Country of Citizenship: Japan	
Post Office Address:	Post Office Address: 63-14 Wakakusadai, Aoba-ku Yokohama-shi	City: Kanagawa	State/Country: Japan	Postal Code: 227-0045

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature of Inventor 1 <u>Akira Yamamoto</u> Akira Yamamoto Date <u>2/6/01</u>	Signature of Inventor 2 <u>Takao Satoh</u> Takao Satoh Date <u>2/21/01</u> 2/2/2001	Signature of Inventor 3 <u>Shigeo Honma</u> Shigeo Honma Date <u>2/23/01</u>
Signature of Inventor 4 <u>Yoshihiro Asaka</u> Yoshihiro Asaka Date <u>2/23/01</u>	Signature of Inventor 5 <u>Yoshiaki Kuwahara</u> Yoshiaki Kuwahara Date <u>3/01/01</u>	Signature of Inventor 6 <u>Hiroyuka Kitajima</u> Hiroyuka Kitajima Date <u>3/02/01</u>

SF 1170248 v1



11769C-01680065
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JUNE 13, 2001

PTAS
TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP
ROBERT J. BENNETT
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SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111



101659263A

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REEL/FRAME: 011653/0552
NUMBER OF PAGES: 6

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

YAMAMOTO, AKIRA

DOC DATE: 02/06/2001

ASSIGNOR:

SATO, TAKAO

DOC DATE: 02/21/2001

ASSIGNOR:

HONMA, SHIGEO

DOC DATE: 02/23/2001

ASSIGNOR:

ASAKA, YOSHIHIRO

DOC DATE: 02/23/2001

ASSIGNOR:

KUWAHARA, YOSHIKI

DOC DATE: 03/01/2001

ASSIGNOR:

KITAJIMA, HIROYUKI

DOC DATE: 03/02/2001

011653/0552 PAGE 2

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ASSIGNEE:

HITACHI, LTD.
6, KANDA SURUGADAI 4-CHOME,
CHIYODA-KU
TOKYO, JAPAN 101-8010

SERIAL NUMBER: 09813382

PATENT NUMBER:

FILING DATE: 03/20/2001

ISSUE DATE:

MARY BENTON, EXAMINER
ASSIGNMENT DIVISION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

04-11-2001

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Attorney Docket No. 16869c016800

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2-30-01

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Name (line 1) Akira Yamamoto

Execution Date
Month Day Year
02 06 2001

Name (line 2)

Second Party

Name (line 1) Takao Satoh

Execution Date
Month Day Year
02 21 2001

Name (line 2)

09/813/382

Receiving Party☐ Mark if additional names of receiving parties attached

Name (line 1) Hitachi, Ltd.

Name (line 2)

Address (line 1) 6, Kanda Surugadai 4-Chome

Address (line 2) Chiyoda-Ku,

Address (line 3) Tokyo

Japan

101-8010

City

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Area Code and Telephone Number

(415) 576-0200

Name **Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP**Address (line 1) **Two Embarcadero Center**Address (line 2) **Eighth Floor**Address (line 3) **San Francisco, CA 94111**

Address (line 4)

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Enter the total number of pages of the attached conveyance document including any attachments

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Enter either the Patent Application Number or the Patent Number (DO NOT ENTER BOTH numbers for the same property).

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If this document is being filed together with a new Patent Application, enter the date the patent application was signed by the first named executing inventor.

Month Day Year
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Robert J. Bennett

Name of Person Signing

Signature

Date

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Name (line 1) Shigeo Honma

Execution Date
Month Day Year
02 23 2001

Name (line 2)

Name (line 1) Yoshihiro Asaka

Execution Date
Month Day Year
02 23 2001

Name (line 2)

Name (line 1) Yoshiaki Kuwahara

Execution Date
Month Day Year
03 01 2001

Name (line 2)

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Patent Application Number(s)

Patent Number(s)

SF 1202946 v1

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09/813382
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Enter additional Conveying Parties

Name (line 1) Hiroyuki Kitajima

Execution Date
Month Day Year
03 02 2001

Name (line 2) _____

Execution Date
Month Day Year

Name (line 1) _____

Name (line 2) _____

Execution Date
Month Day Year

Name (line 1) _____

Name (line 2) _____

Receiving Party(ies)

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Enter additional Receiving Party(ies)

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Name (line 2) _____

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Patent Application Number(s)

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09/813382
03/20/01

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Attorney Docket No.: 16869c-016800US
Client Reference No.: HAL-ID 152

ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT APPLICATION

JOINT

WHEREAS, Akira Yamamoto, of 1202 Ruppell Place, Cupertino, CA 95014; Takao Satoh, of 372-6 Kamonomiya, Odawara-shi, Kanagawa, 250-0874, Japan; Shigeo Honma, of 846-7 Kamonomiya, Odawara-shi, Kanagawa, 250-0874, Japan; Yoshihiro Asaka, of 6-15 Nakazone, Odawara-shi, Kanagawa, 250-0866, Japan; Yoshiaki Kuwahara, of 3731 Sobi, Odawara-shi, Kanagawa, 250-0851, Japan; Hiroyuki Kitajima, of 63-14 Wakakusadai, Aoba-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa, 227-0045, Japan; hereinafter referred to as "Assignors," are the inventors of the invention described and set forth in the below-identified application for United States Letters Patent:

Title of Invention: **LOAD DISTRIBUTION OF MULTIPLE DISKS**

Date(s) of execution of Declaration:

Filing Date: __/__/__

Application No.: ; and

WHEREAS, Hitachi, Ltd., located at 6, Kanda Surugadai 4-Chome, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo, Japan 101-8010, hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE," is desirous of acquiring an interest in the invention and application and in any U.S. Letters Patent and Registrations which may be granted on the same;

For good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by Assignors, Assignors have assigned, and by these presents do assign to Assignee all right, title and interest in and to the invention and application and to all foreign counterparts (including patent, utility model and industrial designs), and in and to any Letters Patent and Registrations which may hereafter be granted on the same in the United States and all countries throughout the world, and to claim the priority from the application as provided by the Paris Convention. The right, title and interest is to be held and enjoyed by Assignee and Assignee's successors and assigns as fully and exclusively as it would have been held and enjoyed by Assignors had this Assignment not been made, for the full term of any Letters Patent and Registrations which may be granted thereon, or of any division, renewal, continuation in whole or in part, substitution, conversion, reissue, prolongation or extension thereof.

Assignors further agree that they will, without charge to Assignee, but at Assignee's expense, (a) cooperate with Assignee in the prosecution of U.S. Patent applications and foreign counterparts on the invention and any improvements, (b) execute, verify, acknowledge and deliver all such further papers, including patent applications and instruments of transfer, and (c) perform such other acts as Assignee lawfully may request to obtain or maintain Letters Patent and Registrations for the invention and improvements in any and all countries, and to vest title thereto in Assignee, or Assignee's successors and assigns.

Assignors hereby authorize and request Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP, Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94111-3834, to insert herein above the application number and filing date of said application when known.

Assignment
Attorney Docket No.: 16869c-016800US
Page 2

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignors have signed their names on the dates indicated.

Dated: 2/6/01

Akira Yamamoto
Akira Yamamoto

Dated: 2/21/01
~~2/17/2001~~

Takao Satoh
Takao Satoh

Dated: 2/23/01

Shigeo Honma
Shigeo Honma

Dated: 2/23/01

Yoshihiro Asaka
Yoshihiro Asaka

Dated: 3/01/01

Yoshiaki Kuwahara
Yoshiaki Kuwahara

Dated: 3/02/01

HiroYuki Kitajima
HiroYuki Kitajima